

The China Mail.

Established February, 1845.

VOL. XL. No. 6402.

號十三月正年四十八百八十一英

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30, 1884.

日三初月正年申甲

PRICE, \$24 PER ANNUM.

AGENTS FOR THE CHINA MAIL.

LONDON.—F. ALBAN, 11 & 12, Clement's Lane, Lombard Street, E. C. GEORGE STREET & Co., 30, Cornhill. GORDON & GOTCH, Ludgate Circus, E.C. BATH HENRY, 36, Walbrook, E.C. SAMUEL DRAGO & Co., 150 & 154, Leadenhall Street.

PARIS AND EUROPE.—GALLIEN & PHINNEY, 36, Rue Lafayette, Paris.

NEW YORK.—ANDREW WIND, 21, Park Row.

AUSTRALIA, TASMANIA, AND NEW ZEALAND.—GODRON & GOTCH, Melbourne and Sydney.

SAN FRANCISCO and American Ports generally.—BEAN & BLACK, San Francisco.

SINGAPORE, STRAITS, &c.—SAYLE & CO., Square, Singapore. O. HEINSZER & Co., Manila.

CHINA.—MACAO, MESEN A. DE MELO & Co., Santos. QUERIOH & CO., AMY, WILSON, NIUHOLS & CO., FOOCHOW, HEDGE & CO., Shanghai, LANE, CRAWFORD & CO., and KEILY & WALSH, Yokohama, LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

Bank.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL, \$3,000,000.
INSTALLMENT received on NEW SHARES, \$26,765.62
RESERVE FUND, \$2,500,000.
INSTALLMENT of PREMIUM RECEIVED on NEW SHARES, \$68,336.43
\$5,926,765.62
\$3,198,336.43

COURT OF DIRECTORS.
Chairman—W.M. REINERS, Esq.
Deputy Chairman—W.S. YOUNG, Esq.
H.L. DALBYMPLE, A.P. MCIVIER, Esq.
W.H. FORDE, Esq. F.D. SASSON, Esq.
A. GUETZOW, Esq. M.E. SASSON, Esq.
Hon. F.B. JOHNSON.

CHIEF MANAGER,
Hongkong,...THOMAS JACKSON, Esq.
MANAGER,
Shanghai,...EVAN CAMERON, Esq.
LONDON BANKERS.—London and County Bank.

HONGKONG.
INTEREST ALLOWED.
ON Current Deposit Account at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum on the daily balance.

For Fixed Deposits.—
For 3 months, 3 per cent. per annum.
" 8 " 4 per cent. "
" 12 " 5 per cent. "

LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.
Credits granted on approved Securities, and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

Drafts granted on London, and the chief Commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

T. JACKSON,
Chief Manager.
Office of the Corporation,
No. 1, Queen's Road East.
Hongkong, August 25, 1883.

Notices of Firms.

NOTICE.

THE INTEREST and RESPONSIBILITY in our Firm of Mr. WILHELM REINERS, Ceased on the 31st December, 1883.

Mr. MAX GROTE, Mr. CARL JANTZEN and Mr. STEPHAN C. MICHAELEN, who have been signing the Firm, are admitted PARTNERS from this date.

Mr. J. GOOSMANN is authorized to sign our Firm by Procuration.

MELCHERS & Co.

Hongkong, January 1, 1884.

NOTICE.

WE HAVE This Day ESTABLISHED a BRANCH of our Firm in Tamsui, Formosa. Mr. WILFRED CHRISTY is authorized to sign on our behalf, per Procuration.

DOUGLAS LAFRAK & Co.

Hongkong, January 1, 1884.

NOTICE.

I HAVE This Day admitted Mr. J. B. ELLAS A PARTNER in my Business. It will hereafter be conducted under the style of "BELLIOS & Co."

E.R. BELLIOS.

Hongkong, January 2, 1884.

NOTICE.

M. GERALD SLADE and Mr. ALFRED ANDER MCNAUCHE are authorized to sign our Firm from this date.

GILMAN & Co.

Hongkong and Foochow,

1st January, 1884.

NOTICE.

THE INTEREST and RESPONSIBILITY of Mr. HERMANN FRIEDRICH MEYERINK in our Firm CEASED on the 1st January, 1883.

Mr. JOHANN HINRICH GARRELS is admitted a PARTNER from this date.

MEYER & Co.

Hongkong, January 1, 1884.

NOTICE.

MR. ANDREW WIND, NEWS AGENT, &c. is authorized to receive Subscriptions, Advertisements, &c., for the China Mail, Overland China Mail, and China Review.

SAILOR'S HOME.

A NY Cast-off CLOTHING, BOOKS, or PAPERS will be kindly received at the Sailor's Home, West Point.

Hongkong, July 25, 1883.

Intimations.

IMPERIAL CHINESE TELEGRAPH ADMINISTRATION.

ON and after the 1st day of 1st Moon of the 10th Year of Kwong-ki (January 28th, 1884), the TARIFF RATE charged on MESSAGES carried by the Lines of this Company, both Canton and Shanghaian, will be charged 10 Cents or a Dollar per each word whether English or Chinese.

CHU CHOW SHU,
Manager,
Imperial Chinese Teleg. Administration,
Hongkong Station.

Hongkong, January 28, 1884. 170

IMPERIAL CHINESE TELEGRAPH ADMINISTRATION.

IT is hereby notified that on and after the 1st day of the 1st Moon of the 10th Year of Kwong-ki (January 28th, 1884), the TARIFF RATE charged for one MESSAGE containing seven words or less, will be considered and charged as seven words; if more the Charge will be according to the TARIFF RATE per each word.

CHU CHOW SHU,
Manager,
Imperial Chinese Teleg. Administration,
Canton Station.

Hongkong, January 28, 1884. 171

PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

QUARANTINE IN EUROPE.

PASSENGERS and SHIPPERS by the above Company's Steamers are informed that QUARANTINE ENFORCEMENTS have been reduced at MAHESHALA to 24 hours, (performed on board the Steamer) and at VENICE to 2 days.

QUARANTINE will probably be removed from all ports by the time Steamers now leaving CHINA will arrive in the MEDITERRANEAN.

PASSENGERS by the Company's Steamers have always the option of continuing the journey on to LONDON, on payment of the difference of fare.

A. MCIVIER,
Superintendent.

Hongkong, January 23, 1884. 169

NOTICE.

H. CAMPBELL, late of Foochow, has the honour to inform the Gentry and Public of Hongkong that he has OPENED A FIRST-CLASS HAIRDRESSING SALOON at BANK BUILDINGS, opposite the HONGKONG HOTEL. Mr. CAMPBELL's Assistants, Messrs. DUTTON and OTTO, are thoroughly experienced in their business, the former being from one of the most famous Hairdressing Establishments, while the latter was for many years connected with Mr. W.H. MOORE's Establishment in Hongkong. Mr. CAMPBELL hopes, by strict attention to the wants of the Public, to merit a share of their Patronage.

Hongkong, January 24, 1884. 147

"SULPHOLINE LOTION."

A N External Means of CURING SKIN DISEASES. There is scarcely any eruption but will yield to "Sulpholine" in a few days and commence to fade away, even if it seems past cure. Ordinary pimples, redness, blotches, seur, roughness, vanish as if by magic; whilst old, enduring skin disorders, that have plagued the sufferers for years, are deeply rooted they may be. "Sulpholine" will not irritate or attack them. It destroys the animalcules which cause these unsightly, irritable, painful afflictions and always produce a healthy, natural condition of the skin. "Sulpholine" lotion is sold by most Chemists, Bottles 2s. 9d. Made only by J. PEPPER & Co., London.

LIVER COMPLAINTS.

D R KING'S DANDELION & QUININE LIVER PILLS (without Mercury). THE BEST REMEDY FOR BILIOUSNESS, STOMACH DERANGEMENT, FLATULENCE, PAINS BETWEEN THE SHOULDERS, BAD APPETITE, INDIGESTION, ACIDITY, HEADACHE, HEARTBURN, and all other symptoms of disordered liver and dyspepsia. Acknowledged by many eminent surgeons to be the safest and easiest pills for every constitution.

In Boxes, at 1s. 1d., 2s. 9d., and 4s. 6d. Sold by Chemists throughout the world.

HONGKONG, January 1, 1884.

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SAILOR'S HOME.

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Hongkong, July 25, 1883.

For Sale.

THE PATENT.

"FILTRE RAPIDE"
REMOVES ALL
ORGANIC and INORGANIC IMPURITIES, LEAD, COPPER, and POISONOUS GASES.

IT ERATES THE WATER.
It can be taken to pieces and cleaned in every part.
IT HAS BEEN AWARDED

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THE CHINA MAIL.

No. 6402.—JANUARY 30, 1884.

For Sale.

MacEWEN, FRICKEL & Co.
No. 53, Queen's Road East,
OPPOSITE THE COMMISSIONERS,
ARE NOW LANDING
FROM AMERICA.
CALIFORNIA.

C RACKER COMPANY'S BISCUITS in 5 lb
tins, and loose.
Soda BISCUITS.
Assorted BISCUITS.

Small HOMINY.
Cracked WHEAT.
OATMEAL.
CORNMEAL.

TOPOCAN BUTTER.
Apple BUTTER.
Eastern and California CHEESE.
CODEISH, Peaches.
Prime HAMS and BACON.
Eagle Brand Condensed MILK.

FAMILY BEEF in 25 lb kegs.
Bent Head SALMON in 6 lb cans.
Cutting Desert FRUITS in 24 lb cans.
Assorted Canned VEGETABLES.

Potted SAUSAGE and Sausage
MEAT.
Stuffed PEPPERS.
Assorted SOUPS.

Richardson & Robins' Celebrated Potted
MEATS.

Lunch HAM.
Lamb's TONGUES.
Clam CHOWDER.
Fresh OREGON SALMON.
Dried APPLES.

TOMATOES.
SUCCOTASH.
Maple SYRUP.
Golden SYRUP.
LOBSTERS.
OYSTERS.
HONEY.

Assorted JELLIES.
Green CORN.

FAIRBANKS' SCALES.

400 lb. Capacity.
600 lb. "
900 lb. "
1,200 lb. "

CORN BROOMS.
OFFICE HIGH CHAIRS.
AXES and HATCHETS.

AGATE IRONWARE.
WAFFLE IRONS.
SMOOTHING IRONS.

PAINTS and OILS.
TALLOW and TAR.
VARNISHES.

DEVOE'S NONPARIEL
BRILLIANT
KEROSENE OIL,
150° test.

Ex late Arrivals from
ENGLAND.

A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF
S T O R E S ,
including:
CHRISTMAS CAKES.
PLUM PUDDINGS.
MINCEMEAT.
ALMONDS and RAISINS.

Crystallized FRUITS.
TEYSON'S DESSERT FRUITS.
Pudding RAISINS.
Lante CURRANTS.

Fine YORK HAMS.
PICNIC TONGUES.
PATE DE FOIE GRAS.
SAVORY PATES.

FRENCH PLUMS.
DRAWN FOOD.
INFANTS' FOOD.
CORN FLOUR.

SPARTAN
COOKING STOVES.

HITCHCOCK HOUSE LAMP.

PERFECTION STUDENT LAMP.

CLARETS.

CHATEAU MARGAUX.
CHATEAU LA TOUL, pints & quarts.

LESS GRAVES, "

BREAKFAST CLARET, "

SHERRIES & PORT—

SAUCON'S MANZANILLA & AMON-

TILLADO.

SAUCON'S OLD INVALID PORT

(1845).

HUNT'S PORT.

BRANDY, WHISKY, LIQUEURS, &c.

1 and 3-year HENDERSON'S BRANDY.

BUQUE DU BOIS & Co.'s BRANDY.

PRINCE OLD BOURBON WHISKY.

KINAHAN'S LL WHISKY.

ROYAL GHENDEE WHISKY.

BOOTH'S OLD TOM.

E. & J. BURKE'S IRISH WHISKY.

ROSE'S LIME JUICE CORDIAL.

NOLLY PRAT & Co.'s VERMOUTH.

CHARBET'S GINGER BRANDY.

EASTERN CIDER.

CHARTREUSE.

MARASCHINO.

CURACAO.

ANGOSTURA, BOKER'S and ORANGE BITTERS.

&c., &c., &c.

BASS'S ALE, bottled by CAVENDISH and

SANDERS, pints and quarts.

GUINNESS'S STOUT, bottled by E. &

J. BURKE, pints and quarts.

DRAUGHT ALE and PORTER, by the

Gallon.

ALE and PORTER, in hogheads.

SPECIALLY SELECTED

C I G A R S .

Fine New Season's CUMSHAW TEA, in

5 catty Boxes.

BREAKFAST CONGOU @ 25 cents p. lb.

MIGNE'S PATENT FIRE-PROOF

SAFES, CASH and PAPER BOXES, at Manufacturer's Price.

Hongkong, December 1, 1883.

1043

Mails.



Notices to Consignees.

FROM HAMBURG, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

THE Steamship *Kuroto*, Capt. PAULSEN, having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed and stored at their risk into the Godown of the Undersigned, whence and/or from the Wharves or Boats delivery may be obtained.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded unless notice to the contrary be given before NOON To-DAY, the 20th Instant.

Cargo remaining undelivered after the 20th Instant will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by

SIEMSEN & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, January 25, 1884. 154

Hongkong, January 25, 1884.

Hongkong, January

SERGEANT Mason, who took such a bad shot at Guicou, is released after twenty months imprisonment, and after a visit to Betty and the Baby, about whom columns of mauldin and rapid quash have been written, the gallant Sergeant will go into the show business and exhibit himself in full uniform probably, and give tableaux illustrating how he didn't shoot Guicou.

The school of the Nobles in Tokio has, in a court behind the school building, a physical map of that country, between 300 and 400 feet long. It is made of turf and brick, and is bordered with paths, which look like a little diamond pattern.

Every inch of the continent is reproduced in this model with a fidelity to detail which is simply wonderful. Latitude and longitude are indicated by telegraph wires, and tablets show the position of the cities.

A very extraordinary meeting of shareholders of the Shanghai Electric Company, to receive a statement of the position of the company, to elect a director, and to pass the necessary resolutions for carrying on the company, was held at the office of Messrs. Frazee & Co., this afternoon.

(Jan. 25th.) Our reporter appeared on the scene, but was told that reporters were not admitted; but no doubt we shall learn ere long what transpired.—*Shanghai Mercury.*

The Chinese officials connected with the Recruiting Bureau, residing at Shanghai and Sungkien, started on the 24th January for Tsing Ming Island to meet H.E. Two Tung-tung. This is owing to the purpose of His Excellency to make a tour of inspection of all the lately formed regiments of Volunteer Fishermen along the coast-bound of the Liang Kiang. We hear that H.E. will start from Nanking on the 30th inst.—N.C.D. News.

A NATIVE went to a money-changer's at Shanghai to get Japanese small coins for two dollars. When he arrived home, he found that what appeared to be Japanese ten sen pieces were in reality spurious coins. He communicated with the French Police, and they made a raid on the money-changer's premises and found upwards of three hundred imitations of five, ten and twenty sen pieces. The base coins would easily deceive a Chinaman, but they are too rough not to be detected by a foreigner.—N.C.D. News.

An Inquest was held on the 16th January at Singapore, before Dr. Mugliston, on the body of Pitt Bots, who was a seaman on board the Swedish barque *Hermine*. On the 15th January at 4 p.m., the deceased and two others were in a boat preparing the sail to go ashore, when the boat capsized. The deceased, who was swimming, lost his hold on the rope and sank. The body was found half an hour after the boat capsized. Verdict, "accidental death by drowning."—*Straits Times.*

The Nation gives the following as an instance of one of the dangers attending electric lighting:—A runaway in the avenue broke down one of the electric-lamp poles and trailed the wire upon the pavement. A passing horse stepped upon the wire; there was a flash of purple light, a report like a pistol shot, all the lights on the avenue went out, and the horse fell dead. A moment later another horse stepped upon the wire and dropped dead like the first. The avenue was immediately closed to travellers of all kinds. Of course if a person had stepped upon the wire he would have shared the fate of the horses. It was a stormy night and there were few people upon the avenue, or the consequences might have been much more serious. A wire which kills instantly every person who treads upon it would be a deadly thing for a crowd to surge over. Clearly the only safe place for these wires is under ground, and the sooner they are put there the better.

A FRIGHTFUL warning to young ladies immoderately addicted to the pastime of waltzing is given by a Wellington paper, New Zealand. A young woman of that city had so successfully devoted herself to the art of waltzing that she had attained the dignity of champion waltzer. She frequently attended a dancing-room, and took prizes for long and steady waltzing, in which she could defy all competitors. But she was smitten in her pride and triumph by the penalty of having waltzed too often and too long. She had no sooner attained the acme of her fame than she became subject to epileptic fits, continuing to the present time. There is a distinction, it appears, in the minds of local medical men as to the cause of the waltzing, and to regard them as the results of that disturbance of the nervous system produced by frequent giddiness in itself the result of too zealous an indulgence in the dizzy waltz. Had such a case come under the notice of Byron he would have been supplied with one illustration the more of the evils of waltzing which he enumerated in his poetical diatribe directed against this fascinating dance.—*Advertiser.*

The tiger, which we reported as having been caught in a pit at Bukit Timah some time ago, and which was brought to Singapore and caged at Compong Glam, where he was on exhibition, escaped from his cage on the night of the 16th January, to the great consternation of the natives of that locality, who with their women and children hastened to secure their front and back doors, and the streets were soon deserted. It is not known which direction he took. It is said he undertook to cross the girders of the new Arab Street bridge, but that having doubt of the safety of municipally superintended constructions, he preferred to trust to the turbulent waters of the "raging canawl," and so took the shortest and safest way across Campion Kapor and the swamp at the back towards his native jungle. It is said his leg was only hurt, not broken, by his fall into the pit, and that he has now four good feet to enable him to seek his provider. We have not heard of any missing children, and also trust that he may not follow the example of the black panther a few days ago, and take refuge in a gondoman's house. The luckless owner had a tiger, just been offered \$300 for him.—On a night of the 16th January, the footprints of a large tiger were seen close to the edge of a pit near the spot where the above-mentioned tiger was captured. This one has for some time been suspected to be in the vicinity, and on this occasion he very narrowly escaped falling into the pit, over which he appears to have barely sprung.—*Straits Times.*

The Melbourne Argus of the 6th instant says:—"A Chinaman criticises Christian civilization, in fluent and forcible English, and the Baby, about whom columns of mauldin and rapid quash have been written, the gallant Sergeant will go into the show business and exhibit himself in full uniform probably, and give tableaux illustrating how he didn't shoot Guicou."

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Part from the root of the evil spirits, I suppose, however, this cracker nuisance is not without certain benefit. The sulphurous fumes that have assailed our nostrils have lying about in the thoroughfares here. Not only are they sickening to the sight, but they must infect healthy dogs which go near them. In the hot months they are also a source of danger to human beings."

The "Story of Chinese Gordon" by A. Egmont Hale, is, I see, about to be given to the world through a London publisher.

It should not be surprised if there is work in China for another Gordon if China comes to blows with France. The chief safeguard

against it will be the patriotic feeling, from which even a Chinaman is not altogether exempt, against a foe of one's country, intensified by actual hostilities.

At an Australian police court a short time ago a Chinese vegetable hawk was summoned for "£2, money received."

The case for the plaintiff was that a five-pound note had been given by mistake to the Chinaman for a one-pound note, and "John" had promptly given change for the latter instead of the former. Gow

the Chinaman of course asserted that the note he received was a one-pound one.—

At the court Gow took his oath by blowing out a lighted match, a proceeding which he did in a very orthodox manner. On being asked by the plaintiff's attorney if he knew the difference between a £1 and a £5 note, he smilingly replied he did. A £5 note was handed to him, and he deliberately split out the word "five," and added, "This fellow Chinaman no fooler." The manner in which John made the remark caused some merriment in court. The Bench ultimately gave a verdict for "John," with 17s. 6d. costs.

We have rather too much experience of Chinaman in Hongkong now to allow the tomfoolery of blowing out matches, or cutting off cock's heads as guarantees that native witnesses speak the truth, and I can fancy that Mr. Gow, that when he extinguished that match, thought that after all he looked fully as respectable as my magistratus.

Mr Colquhoun has just published a new work, "Among the Shans." Whatever may be thought of Mr Colquhoun as an author, he is certainly a most industrious man, and possesses a wonderful facility for getting information.

What a glorious time it has been for little John Chinaman! In all his fine togs he has been trudging along at his father's side to pay his New Year's calls, his little brain busy at work calculating how much cash he will get in presents from his father's acquaintances, while his father is thinking of the good bargains that this year will bring. "Kung-hi, fat-sei," here they are, the little man bowing and scraping and shaking his chubby little fingers in exact imitation of his elders. A veritable chip of the old block, he takes his pleasure gravely, but evidently, the visits over, enjoys the fun to the full with lighted joss sticks, as assiduously as a *chiffoe*; he carefully turns over the mass of smoking paper fragments—the remnants of the long string of cracklers his big brother has just let off—to be rewarded by half a dozen which have missed fire.

Well! it is a good thing for us that Chinese New Year comes but once a year—and patience and everything would give way were this continual din to last longer than a day or two.

I hear that one of the masters of the Government Central School—I beg that useful institution's pardon, Victoria College—has a very good chance of getting the appointment of Acting Superintendent of Victoria Gaol, while, owing to the intended departure of our Assistant Postmaster, another of the preceptors will act as his locum tenens, and yet another, it is said, is thinking of going in for holy orders. The Central School is evidently coming to the front, and the masters are getting "into the swim."

The new school is to be commenced as soon as the Chinese get over their New Year festivities. But the promise of a start being made, has been held out for so many years past, that one may be forgiven the scepticism that still doubts until it sees the foundations really laid. With a new building and such an able head-master I predict a splendid future for the establishment.

The following ode to the peel of a banana is one of the neatest bits of poetry I have come across for some time:—

Liko the flower of the field, vain man Goeth forth at the break of day, But where he shall feel my grip on his heel Like the stubble he feath'z away;

For I lif him high up in the air, With his heels where his head ought to be; With a down-coming crash he maketh his dash,

And I know he's clean gone upon me.

I am scorned by the man who buys me, I am modest and quiet and meek; Though my talents are few, yet the work that I do

Has off the collar doors creak; And a Nihilist fearless I be;

Though the head wear a crown, I would bring'z its pride down,

If it set its proud head upon me.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"Tired nature's sweet restorer, balmy-sleep" has pretty nearly deserted me during the last two or three days. Crackers

are excellent things in their place, but I think a certain unmentionable but warm locality is the place for them, and not the street of Hongkong during two continuous nights. The man to whom a friend's children were sent on a visit, so that they might be out of the way of an expected earthquake, wrote back: "Please send for your children, and let me have the earthquake"; and following this courageous example, I would say to the Chinese: "Please

stop this firing of crackers, and let us have or means of subsistence. I think a similar regulation might be enforced here with advantage, especially in another month or two, when the weather gets warmer. During

the last few weeks I have seen some most wretched specimens of the canine genus lying about in the thoroughfares here. Not only are they sickening to the sight, but they must infect healthy dogs which go near them. In the hot months they are also a source of danger to human beings."

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We have rather too much experience of Chinaman in Hongkong now to allow the tomfoolery of blowing out matches, or cutting off cock's heads as guarantees that native witnesses speak the truth, and I can fancy that Mr. Gow, that when he extinguished that match, thought that after all he looked fully as respectable as my magistratus.

Mr Colquhoun has just published a new work, "Among the Shans." Whatever may be thought of Mr Colquhoun as an author, he is certainly a most industrious man, and possesses a wonderful facility for getting information.

What a glorious time it has been for little John Chinaman! In all his fine togs he has been trudging along at his father's side to pay his New Year's calls, his little brain busy at work calculating how much cash he will get in presents from his father's acquaintances, while his father is thinking of the good bargains that this year will bring. "Kung-hi, fat-sei," here they are, the little man bowing and scraping and shaking his chubby little fingers in exact imitation of his elders. A veritable chip of the old block, he takes his pleasure gravely, but evidently, the visits over, enjoys the fun to the full with lighted joss sticks, as assiduously as a *chiffoe*; he carefully turns over the mass of smoking paper fragments—the remnants of the long string of cracklers his big brother has just let off—to be rewarded by half a dozen which have missed fire.

Well! it is a good thing for us that Chinese New Year comes but once a year—and patience and everything would give way were this continual din to last longer than a day or two.

I hear that one of the masters of the Government Central School—I beg that useful institution's pardon, Victoria College—has a very good chance of getting the appointment of Acting Superintendent of Victoria Gaol, while, owing to the intended departure of our Assistant Postmaster, another of the preceptors will act as his locum tenens, and yet another, it is said, is thinking of going in for holy orders. The Central School is evidently coming to the front, and the masters are getting "into the swim."

The new school is to be commenced as soon as the Chinese get over their New Year festivities. But the promise of a start being made, has been held out for so many years past, that one may be forgiven the scepticism that still doubts until it sees the foundations really laid. With a new building and such an able head-master I predict a splendid future for the establishment.

The following ode to the peel of a banana is one of the neatest bits of poetry I have come across for some time:—

Liko the flower of the field, vain man Goeth forth at the break of day, But where he shall feel my grip on his heel Like the stubble he feath'z away;

For I lif him high up in the air, With his heels where his head ought to be; With a down-coming crash he maketh his dash,

And I know he's clean gone upon me.

I am scorned by the man who buys me, I am modest and quiet and meek; Though my talents are few, yet the work that I do

Has off the collar doors creak; And a Nihilist fearless I be;

Though the head wear a crown, I would bring'z its pride down,

If it set its proud head upon me.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"Tired nature's sweet restorer, balmy-sleep" has pretty nearly deserted me during the last two or three days. Crackers

are excellent things in their place, but I think a certain unmentionable but warm locality is the place for them, and not the street of Hongkong during two continuous nights. The man to whom a friend's children were sent on a visit, so that they might be out of the way of an expected earthquake, wrote back: "Please send for your children, and let me have the earthquake"; and following this courageous example, I would say to the Chinese: "Please

covenant or title and also for a breach of an implied contract. By an indenture dated 29th July 1881, defendant agreed to Iu Chow, sub-section 2 of section B of Island Lot 202, a piece of property situated at the junction of Jervois Street and Queen's Road, with all the messengers and buildings thereon. In October of the same year, Yu Chou resold the property, at a considerable increase of price, to Lee Fu Wing, who, shortly afterwards, entered into contracts to pull down the buildings then standing on the ground with a view to improving and increasing the value of the lot. This course was opposed by one of the then tenants, Lu On, who refused to give up possession on behalf of himself and a number of other persons styling themselves the "Pico Gooda Merchants Guild," who are the owners of the ground. The case came to trial before John Graham Morrison, Esq., and his Honorableness purchased the whole of the land for £1,000. The Plaintiff, however, claimed that the property was barred by the Statute of Limitations, and that a perpetual injunction was issued against him taking possession of the property. Plaintiff claimed that by the indenture of the 29th July 1881, and the assignment therein contained, they were and are entitled as against the defendant to the quiet enjoyment of the property of the said plaintiff. Nevertheless, the Plaintiff asserted that he had received a one-pound one—

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